Portable Powered Seat Lift

NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC) has developed and patented a portable powered seat lift that affords greater independence to people suffering from a range of leg joint disabilities. People with degenerative hip or knee conditions often find sitting and rising very difficult. While larger, stationary lifting chairs designed for use in the home offer some help, people suffering from these disabilities are often discouraged from traveling away from home, since they must rely on others for assistance. This new technology offers users much greater freedom when travelling.

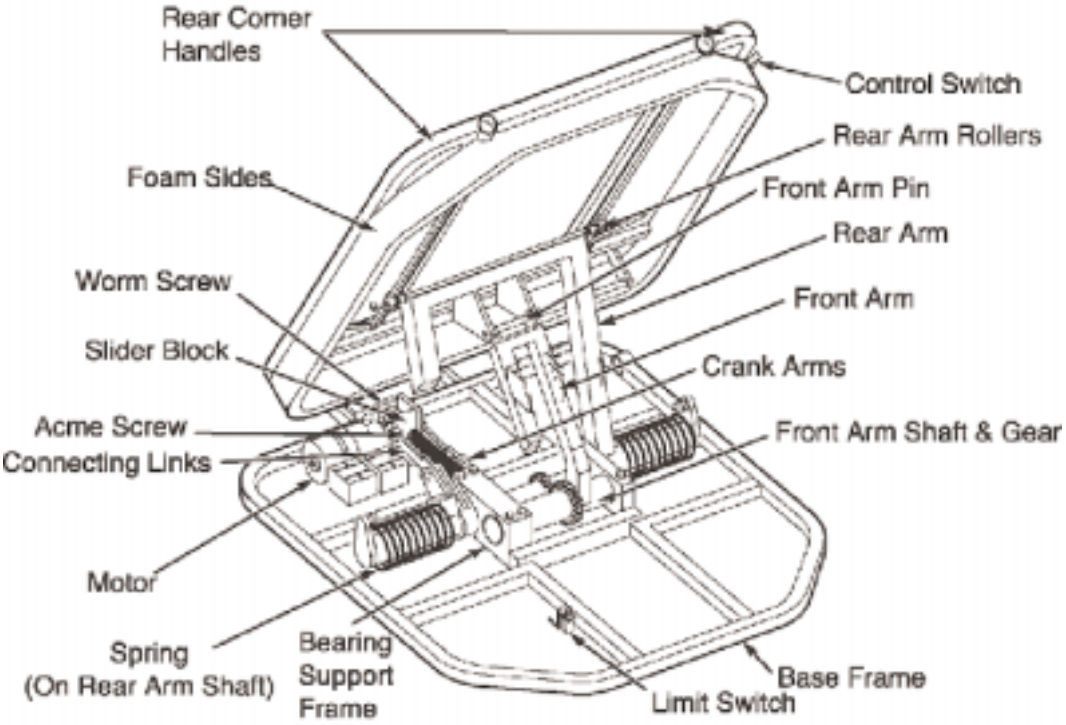
Benefits

- Lightweight and compact, similar in size to a briefcase
- Battery operated
- Can lift a 300-pound load to full height in 10 seconds
- Provides a natural way of sitting or rising with ease
- Allows greater independence
- Offers freedom to travel without difficulty

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

The Technology

MSFC has developed a portable seat lift that can help individuals lower themselves into a sitting position or rise to a standing position. The device consists of a seat mounted on a base with two levers, which are powered by a drive unit that lifts the weight of the user. When the drive unit actuates the two levers, both the front and back of the seat are raised in a manner similar to the natural action of sitting down or rising. As a result, a physically impaired person can sit or stand more naturally and with greater ease.



Isometric View of Seat Lift Fully Open

Partnership Opportunities

This technology is part of NASA's technology transfer program, which seeks to stimulate commercial use of NASA developed technology. This technology has been patented (Patent #5,333,931) and companies are invited to explore licensing the technology. NASA is flexible in its agreements—opportunities exist for exclusive, nonexclusive, or exclusive field-of-use patent licensing.

For More Information

If you would like more information about this technology or about NASA's technology transfer program, please contact:

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More information about working with MSFC's Technology Transfer Department is available online.

www.nasasolutions.com

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